

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SECURITY INFORMATION
REPORT

COUNTRY: Polish-occupied Germany

SUBJECT: Soviet and Polish Troops in Brieg

LOCATION	PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT		25X1
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED 8 October 1951	25X1
REFERENCE		25X1
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REMARKS		25X1
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Soviet Troops.

1. Prior to November 1950, the barracks installation located on the northwestern perimeter of the city of Brieg (P 51/H 89) and on the southwest side of the road to Breslau (P 52/C 41) quartered a Soviet mortar unit. The former Mistrach Street ends at the main entrance of this installation, which was constructed before World War I. The installation, which was not destroyed during the war, includes 10 to 12 large four-story brick buildings serving as billets and an unidentified number of other structures serving as kitchen and mess buildings and stables. Source himself observed neither mortars nor other heavy weapons, but distinctly heard the reports of the mortars participating in record firings held outside the city limits. Men from this barracks installation were also observed frequently undergoing infantry combat training in the terrain located between Schoenus and Brieg. They were frequently referred to as a mortar battalion by the local population.
2. Other Soviet units, which belonged to the Soviet air base, were quartered in the Briegischdorf settlement southwest of the railroad line from Breslau to Oppeln (P 51/J 17), in barracks installations constructed in 1937 and 1938, and in a hutment at the airfield. No other installations occupied by Soviet troops were known to source, who was well acquainted with the area. In 1949 and 1950, 10 to 12 searchlights were frequently observed in the direction of the Soviet airfield in connection with night flying exercises. *

3. [redacted] the villages of Pampitz (P 51/H 79) and Pramzen (P 51/J 04), which had been occupied by Polish settlers, were to be vacated by order of the Soviets. 25X1

Polish Troops and Offices.

4. The barracks installation located on the southeastern perimeter of the city, on the west side of the road to Lossen (P 51/H 98), was occupied by a Polish engineer regiment up to November 1950. The installation, which was constructed in 1938 and 1939 and referred to as Seydlitz or Mudra Kaserne by the German population, was located about 100 meters south of the railroad spur serving the sugar factory on the Oder River and included eight white stucco four-story billets and the necessary number of kitchen and mess buildings and garages.

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SECURITY INFORMATION

Young Polish soldiers were in the barracks installation on active duty for two years. German-speaking soldiers referred to their unit as an engineer regiment. The men wore brown Polish Army standard uniforms, some with black and others with green and red service color. According to the men, the billets were occupied beyond their capacity. In the fall of 1950, about 50 percent of the men were exchanged. The newly assigned recruits arrived on trucks. The training ground of the regiment was located east of the barracks installation, between the bank of the Oder River and the road to Schoenau. The sugar factory and the Schillas shipyard adjoined the training ground toward the north. The regiment constructed heavy vehicular bridges and wooden emergency bridges. The unit was also observed practicing stream-crossings with assault boats. The engineer equipment was stored in sheds near the training ground. ** No other Polish units were located in the post.

5. The UB (Security Police) office was in the former revenue office, on the east side of former Bismarck Street, in the northwestern sector of the city. The principal administration was in the same building. The MO (Militia) office was on former Piasten Street, a distance of about 600 meters from the railroad station. 25X1

Comment. According to a previous report, by another source, of July 1951, Brieg was known to be occupied by the Soviets, which is confirmed by the present report. The barracks installation mentioned in paragraph 1 is fairly definitely believed to be located on Wolnosci Street. The mortar unit quartered in the installation is fairly definitely believed to be the 410th Mortar Regt of the 20th Tank Div, which was located in Brieg in October 1949 according to the statements of another source. The searchlights observed at the air base indicate that the 1711th AAA Regt of the 20th Tank Div, which was still carried in Neuhammer according to source's statements, may also be located in Brieg. On the other hand, the AAA unit may be controlled by the air force units located in Brieg. Such subordinations were also reported from the Soviet Zones of Germany and Austria. 25X1

- ** Comment. According to previous reports, the 1st Engr Regt is carried in the area of the 4th MD. 25X1

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